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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Reverend Wade A. Hyslop, Jr., Trinity Missionary Baptist Church, New London, Connecticut, offered the following prayer:

Our God, the ruler of this Nation, who has given us this good land for our heritage, we humbly beseech You that we may always prove ourselves a people mindful of Your favor.

We ask that You lead and guide Speaker PELOSI and send down Your spirit of wisdom and justice on these Representatives, that they may serve with a steadfast purpose and devotion to their office to promote the well-being of all people.

We ask You to bless the men and women of our Armed Forces who are defending our country at home and on foreign soil, protecting our liberties.

Unite us in these turbulent times. Give us peace, love and understanding. We place all things in Your hands. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. COURTNEY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COURTNEY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

WELCOMING REV. WADE A. HYSLOP, JR.

(Mr. COURTNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, it's an honor to welcome today Reverend Wade A. Hyslop, Jr., from New London, Connecticut, to lead the House in prayer this morning.

If he looked comfortable in the podium today, there is a reason for that. For 10 years he served in Connecticut as the deputy speaker of the House of Representatives, someone with whom I served as a colleague on the Human Services Committee and have seen up close the work and impact that he has had in the City of New London and across the State of Connecticut.

He is joined today by his family, who is here, his wife, Jessie; his three children; his son, Bertram, who is a sergeant major in the U.S. Army, serving today in Washington, DC, but also served our country in two deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Again, Wade leads a congregation, the Trinity Missionary Baptist Church in New London, Connecticut, which I have had the opportunity to visit a number of times. It is an energetic, warm congregation, which is clearly being led by a wonderful person whose impact has been felt, not only in that congregation, but the City of New London and the State of Connecticut.

Again, it's a pleasure to welcome him here today and get us off to a good start.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 one-minute requests on each side.

SUPPORT INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS BILL TODAY

(Mr. ISRAEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to urge my colleagues to support the Interior appropriations bill today.

As a member of the Appropriations Committee, I was able to add \$10 million for the Long Island Sound. That's \$8.6 million more than last year's budget. It's more than \$9.5 million of the administration's request of \$500,000.

This is not a local issue, this is a national imperative. Twenty million Americans live within 50 miles of the shores of the Long Island Sound. The Sound contributes \$5 billion to our regional economy. The Sound is an essential part of our history.

The chairman of the Armed Services Committee is with us this morning. He knows that Nathan Hale crossed the Long Island Sound to infiltrate the British. Generations of commercial fishing families have plied its waters.

Sadly, the Long Island Sound has fallen on hard times as a result of development pressures, nitrogen loading and run-off. This \$10 million literally helps turn the tides of the Long Island Sound.

I urge my colleagues to support it, and I urge the other body to match that \$10 million figure.

THE CASE OF THE MISSING PANTS

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, a new inductee in the Judges Hall of Shame is Judge Roy Pearson of Washington, DC.

It seems that Judge Pearson suffers from the arrogant ailment known as "black robe disease." But instead of issuing a bad ruling, Pearson filed an absurd lawsuit.

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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